Marine Fishing Regulation act;

— development of deep sea fishing in the EEZ by encouraging joint venture;

— Introduction of artificial reefs and mariculture for resource enhancement, etc.

Non-Living Resources:

(i) Exploration of polymetallic nodules in the pioneer area alloted to India in the Central Indian Ocean Basin;

(ii) Exploration of sea bed mineral resources in the India's EEZ;

(iii) Implementation of Research & Development programmes for development of viable technologies for exploration and exploitation of polymetallic nodules; etc.

(b) to (d) The proposals for exploitation of the marine living and non-living resources are in the formulation stage in the Ministries/Departments concerned with the exploitation of these resources and are yet to be approved by the Planning Commission.

Cities under Prime Minister' integrated Urban poverty eradication Programme

1463. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme is Centrally sponsored;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to include the newly developed urban cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT & MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Yes, Sir. The Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradiction Programme (PMI UPEP) launched in November, 1995 is a Centrally Sponosred Scheme.

(b) The PMIUPEP is applicable to all urban agglomerations with population between 50,000 to 100,000 as per the 1991 Census and subject to the condition that election to Urban Local Bodies have been held. Considering the peculiar problems of North-Eastern/Hilly States, the programme has also been extended to 72 districts from these States. The Programme has been approved for a period of 5 years (1995-96 to 1999-2000). A details note on the scheme is annexed. (*see* below)

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration at present, consisting of atleast 100 families.

Statement

PRIME MINISTER'S INTEGRATED URBAN POVERTY ERADICATION PROGRAMME (PMI UPEP)

Recognising the seriousness and complexity of urban poverty problems, especially in the small towns where the situation is more grave due to lack of resources for planning their environment and development, the PMIUPEP has been launched in November, 1995.

OBJECTIVES:

The general objective of PMI UPEP is to attack the several root causes of urban poverty simultaneously in an integrated manner so as to eradicate poverty from the targetted urban areas by the turn of the century. The specific objectives of the Programme are (i) Effective achievement of social sector goals; (ii) community empowerment; (iii) Convergence through sustainable support systems; (iv) employment generation and skill upgradation; (v) Environmental Improvement; and (vi) Shelter Upgradation.

COVERAGE:

The Programme is applicable to all Class II urban agglomerations with a population ranging between 50,000 and 1 lakh subject to the condition that elections to local bodies have been held.

In order to ensure that the urban poor could avail of the benefits under the Programme irrespective of the fact that elections to urban local bodies have not been held for various reasons, it had been decided, as a one time exception (1995-96) to release funds to such States also. Further, keeping in view the peculiar problems of the backward and hilly States, it has been decided to extend the Programme to 72 district towns in North-Eastern States, Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Garhwal and Kumaon Regions (UP). The Programme is being implemented on a whole-town/ project basis extending the coverage to all the targetted groups for having visible impact and facilitating overall development of the towns to be covered.

SALIENT FEATURES:

The Programme envisages resource mobilisation also through the community, urban local bodies, NGO's and the private sector participation. The Programme also provides for creation of a National Urban Poverty Eradiction Fund with contributions from private sector linked to 100% Income Tax exemption.

Multi-purpose community kendras, each of approximately 300*sq.ft. is to be set up to function as community pre-school/functional literacy/nonformal education, primary health care/cultural centre, etc. each for neighbourhood groups consisting of atleast 100 families.

The Programme envisages under-employed and unemployed urban poor youth to set up small enterprises relating to servicing, petty business and manufacturing through skill development. The maximum unit cost is placed at Rs. 1 lakh with a subsidy of 15% of the project cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 7,500/- per beneficiary. The beneficiary is required to contribute 5% as margin money. The repayment scheduled ranges from 3 years to 7 years after an initial moratorium of 6 to 18 months as decided by the bank.

The Programme envisages financial support to the urban poor for shelter upgradation with a loan component of Rs.10,000/- to be arranged from HUDCO/ any other financial institution including commercial banks subject to the condition that the beneficiary holds a title to the land. A subsidy of 25% subject to a ceiling of Rs. 2,500/- per unit will be given.

Under the Programme, it is proposed to provide basic physical amenities on a whole-town basis, like, water supply, general sanitation, garbage and sould waste disposal including small construction activities like, roads, pavements, drainage, community baths/ latrines, etc. on a 60:40 basis between the Central and the State Governments.

A per capita cost of Rs. 100/- in the first year and Rs. 75/- in the subsequent years will be available for community activities.

FINANCIAL OUTLAY:

The funds are allocated amongest the States/UTs on the basis of incidence of urban poverty and in relation to the number of towns. A total outlay of Rs. 800 crores as Central share has been provided for the Programme for the entire programme period of 5 years (1995-96 to 1999-2000). A sum of Rs. 106.20 crores had been released as Central share for the progamme for the year 1995-96. It is proposed to provide Rs. 100 crores as Central share for the Programme for the year 1996-97.

FOCUS ON WOMEN:

Under PMI UPEP special attention/ emphasis is to be given to women alongwith SC/ST and disabled presons. It is now proposed to monitor the number of women SC/ST benefitted under the different components of the programme.

Under the strategy of facilitating direct participation of targetted groups through Community Based Organisations (CBO), Neighb ourhood Development Committees (NDC) comprising women

are to be set up. The NDCs are then to be linked upto form Community Development Societies (CDSs) at the town level. Besides, Thrift and Credit Societies for urban poor women groups are to be formed under the programme in a major step towards Women and Community Empowerment.

Strategic Planning Group on restructuring of Oil Industry

1464. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Strategic Planning Group on restructuring of oil industry has submitted its report alongwith some recommendations to Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some suggestion has also been made regarding subsidies and cross subsidies which have resulted in wide distortion in the consumer prices and do not reflect the economic cost of petroleum products, which are not being passed on to consumers automatically and has led to inefficient use of precious fuels and large-scale misuse of highly subsidised products; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (d) Yes Sir. The report of "Strategic Planning Group" for restructuring of the National Oil Industry is being examined by the Government.

National Electricity Regulatory Authority

1465. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up an independent National Electricity Regulatory Authority at national level and various State Electricity Regulatory Authorities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) The Government is considering finalsation of an Action Plan for the Power Sector in consultation with the States which, *inter-alia*, includes suggestions on Regulatory Commissions.

Disparities in per capita income in States

1466. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of PLANNING PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are wide disparities in the per capita income in various States in the country;

(b) if not, what is the assessment of per capita income in Delhi, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Jammu and Kashmir, separately, during 1994-95;

(c) whether Government have ascertained the reasons for such disparities in the per capita income; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) The Per Capita income measured by Per Capita Net State Domestic Product (NSDP) does differ among the states.

(b) The information is given in statement (*see* below).

(c) and (d) The Per Capita NSDP differs among the States for various reasons. The figures are not strictly comparable between States. Uneven development of infrastructure, agriculture and industry in various regions, and differences in productivity of investment and developmental strategies, are reasons for the differences.